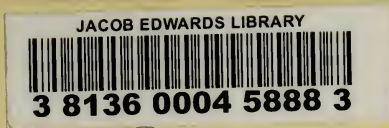


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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

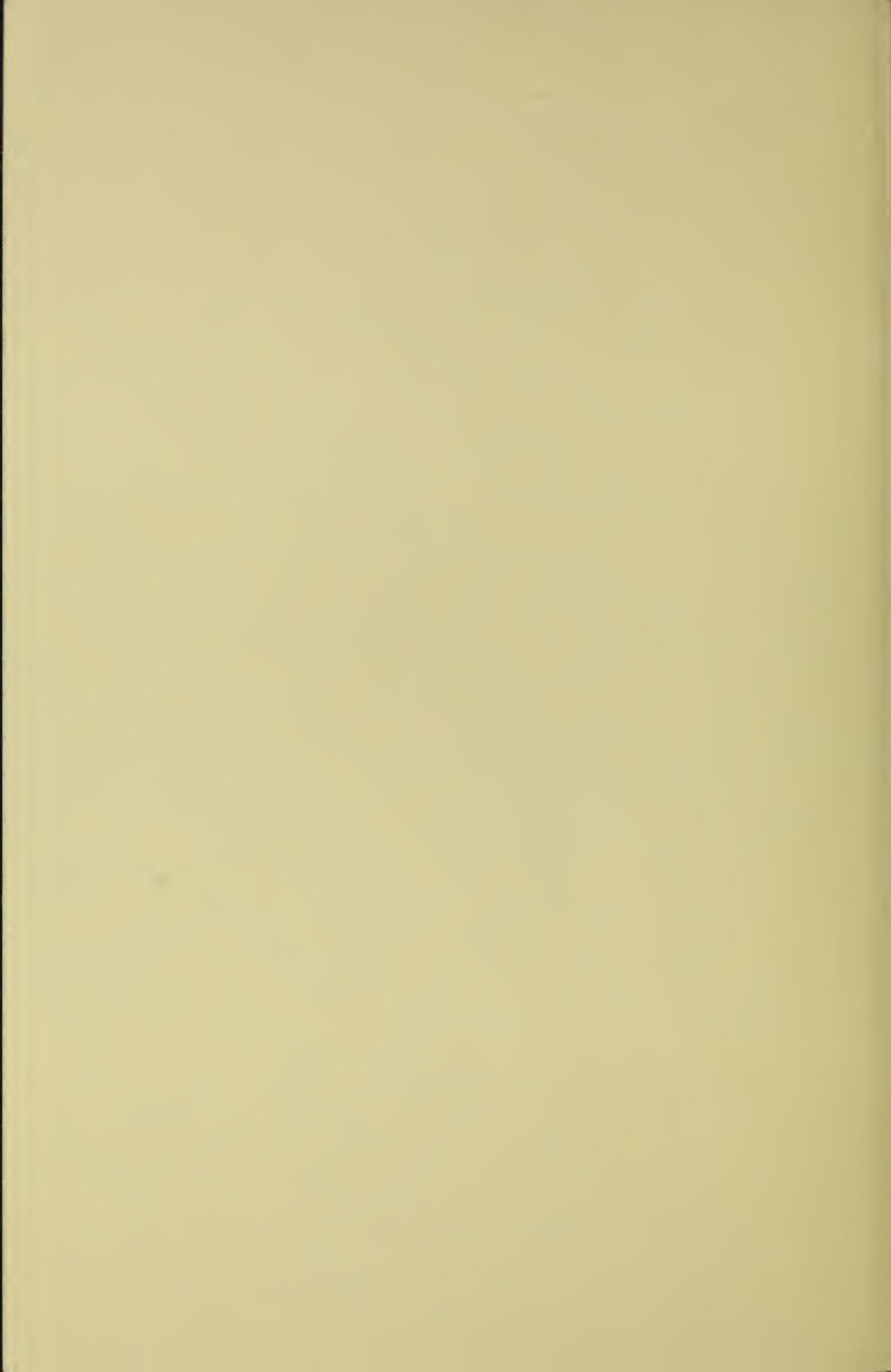
AND

Superintendent of Schools

OF THE

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE

For the Year Ending December 31, 1954



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ANNUAL REPORT
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SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND
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TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
For the Year Ending December 31, 1954

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Southbridge, Massachusetts

December 31, 1954

THE SOUTHBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

1954-1955

Mrs. Alexander Steen, Jr., Chairman, 28 Maple St.	1955
Mrs. Frederic Beck, Vice-Chairman, 103 Eastford Rd.	1956
Lorenzo J. Beaupre, 131 Central St.	1957
Eugene LeBlanc, 107 Pine St.	1956
Paul A. Roy, 141 Everett St.	1957
Belmore St. Amant, 11 Edwards St.	1955

Meetings of School Committee

The regular meetings of the School Committee are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:00 P. M. in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, Town Hall.

There are no regular meetings in July and August.

Superintendent of Schools

Robert L. Fox

Residence: 46 Columbus Avenue Tel. 4-8400

Office: Town Hall Tel. 4-4721

Secretaries

Margaret R. Connolly, 14 South St. Tel. 4-6513

Mary F. Welch, 12 Woodland Street Tel. 4-3925

The Superintendent's office is open from Monday through Friday, from: 8:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.

School Physicians

Dr. William Langevin, 24 Everett St. Tel. 4-7358

Dr. Adah B. Eccleston, 62 Elm St. Tel. 4-8141

School Nurse

Lottie A. LeBlanc, 54 Westwood Parkway Tel. 4-3359

School Calendar — 1955

Winter term, seven weeks January 3 - February 18
Spring term, seven weeks February 28 - April 15
Summer term, eight weeks April 15 - June 24
Fall term, sixteen weeks September 7 - December 23

No-School Announcement

The official No-School Announcement for all schools will be given over Stations WTAG and WARE at 7 A. M.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Expenditures

Salaries	\$421,599.55
Other Expenses (Including Transportation, Tuition, Medical Expenses, Textbooks, Supplies, Operation and Maintenance of Plant, New Equipment, Maintenance of Equipment, Capital Outlay, etc.)	108,363.19
Playgrounds	3,999.94
Contingency Fund	4,997.83
Smith-Hughes Fund	1,412.41
Federal Lunch Program (Cafeteria)	2,000.00
General Athletic	949.49
Marcy Street Repairs	3,732.98
Mary E. Wells Roof Repairs	15,850.00
Driver Education	796.98
Balance on Hand December 31, 1954	5,573.28

Reimbursements

State Aid for Schools (Chap. 70 as Amended 1948 Chap. 643)	\$ 90,083.97
Vocational School, State Grant	35,459.82
Smith-Hughes U. S. Gov. Fund	1,412.41
High School Tuition	18,115.79
Elementary School Tuition	738.03
Vocational School Tuition	12,151.59
Tuition of Pupils to Vocational School (Girls' Trade, Worcester)	141.15

Cole Trade High—Evening		
School Tuition	186.30	
Cole Trade High School—Goods		
Sold75	
Transportation (Charlton)	18.10	
Transportation Vocational Pupils	47.12	
	<hr/>	
Total Receipts Returned to Town Treasurer		\$158,355.03

Appropriations

Salaries	\$430,168.00	
Transferred to Other Expenses	3,000.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Salaries		\$427,168.00
Other Expenses	\$104,051.00	
Transferred from Salaries	3,000.00	
Transferred from Marcy Street		
Repairs	667.02	
Transferred from Mary E. Wells		
Roof Repairs	650.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Other Expenses		\$108,368.02

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In Brief:

Total Expenditures	\$563,702.37	
Total Receipts to Town		
Treasurer	158,355.03	
	<hr/>	
Net Cost to Town		\$405,347.34

A detailed financial statement will be found in the Town Accountant's report.

ENROLLMENT OCTOBER 1, 1954

Gr.	5 - 7		7 - 14		14 - 16		16 - Up		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	97	81	9	11					106	92
2	54	38	61	54					115	92
3			97	112					97	112
4			75	70					75	70
5			70	74					70	74
6			92	86					92	86
7			76	82					76	82
8			54	58	15	8		1	69	67
9			12	16	28	43	3	4	43	63
10					35	57	17	11	52	68
11					10	8	29	36	39	44
12					9	20	25	30	34	50
Kdgn.	96	91							96	91
Un-graded			8	2	1				9	2
Trade			3		72		97		172	
Total	247	210	557	565	170	136	171	82	1,145	993
Total Southbridge Public Schools									2,138	
Total Saint Mary's School									257	
Total Notre Dame School									852	
Total Ste. Jeanne D'Arc School									300	
Grand Total (all pupils attending school in Southbridge)									3,547	

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR 1954

To the School Committee and Citizens
of Southbridge, Massachusetts

Herewith I submit my first annual report as Superintendent of Schools for the year ending December 31, 1954.

Introduction

On the national scene, the controversy regarding our public schools which burst into prominence almost ten years ago showed some evidence of abating. There has been a general movement toward a middle ground. The bitter, acrimonious attacks of the extreme critics, with a few exceptions, have subsided while the hypersensitive and defensive attitudes of some educators have been replaced by a calmer, more realistic approach to the problem of working with the public. In this meeting of minds there is great hope for education because the interest of citizens, especially of parents, is of inestimable value

to those who bear the responsibility of administering our schools.

The most significant single fact in the educational picture for 1954 was the increase in enrollment throughout the country at the beginning of the current school year.

The elementary schools, public and private have approximately 26,439,000 pupils this year—an increase of 1,394,000 over last year. The increase in secondary school population was 168,000. More than 21 percent of our total population is enrolled in the public and private institutions of education.

PROBLEMS OF SPACE

There must have been evidence of the need for more space in our public schools three years ago, since at that time a concerted effort was made to interest the community in building a new high school. In the intervening time enrollment has increased from 1958 to 2138 even though 82 pupils transferred to Tantasqua Regional High School when it opened last September. The need for more room is more critical than ever. Several of our elementary rooms have forty or more pupils. A stage is being used as a classroom. One group of youngsters meet in a room which is little more than a large closet. The crowded conditions in the elementary schools cannot help but affect the efficiency of the educational program. We must definitely face the possibility of holding double sessions next year in some of our schools so that the pupil-teacher ratio may be equalized.

Added space in any part of the system will alleviate conditions throughout the system. If it is accepted as fact that more room is needed, there remains only to decide at which level it is most feasible to direct our building plans. Since there was open public discussion about the need for a new building two years ago and since, no doubt, it has been a common subject of conversation of late, there is little need for a lengthy dissertation on the matter in this report. There are, however, certain inescapable facts which it is important to keep before you. The elementary schools are so crowded now that we are approaching a state of emergency. The wave of increased school population is just reaching the high school. The present high school building cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, house grades 8 to 12 inclusive three years from now. Something must be done while there is still time.

NEW PROJECTS

Federal Milk Program

Southbridge was the first town in Worcester County to accept the New Federal Milk Program. This is a plan by which the town is reimbursed for every bottle of milk sold in school, thereby enabling children to purchase milk at the rate of 3 cents per half pint bottle.

Driver Education

Driver Education for all eligible high school pupils in the community became a reality in November when a car was donated for that purpose by the C and L Motor Company. By the time this report is printed, the first group of twenty-four seniors shall have completed the course.

Curriculum

We are in the process of developing a curriculum guide for the entire system. The goal of this project is to place in written form the courses of study being followed in the schools of Southbridge. Committees have been formed, and every teacher is contributing to the work involved.

This amounts to an evaluation of the entire program because in the discussions attendant upon the project, consideration will be given to what we are now doing. Changes in textbooks, methods, and policies will be effected when the study indicates that such changes are desirable. In the end we shall have a compilation of courses of study in the various subjects so that each teacher may have a book to which she can turn to ascertain what is to be accomplished in any month or any year. Each activity will be a planned part of the total educational scheme of our town.

Administrative Bulletin

The principals have formed a committee for the purpose of making available an administrative bulletin which will include all the policies, rules, and regulations in force at the present time. When such important matters are not in writing there is apt to be confusion and lack of uniformity as to procedure.

SPECIAL REPORTS

The following are reports sent to the Superintendent by directors in special fields and areas of education. We hope that you will find them interesting as well as revealing.

MARY E. WELLS HIGH SCHOOL

DR. JAMES M. ROBERTSON, *Principal*

The enrollment for the year 1954-1955, as of October, is divided as follows: Seniors—85, Juniors—83, Sophomores—120, Freshmen—106, Eighth Graders—136, making a total of 530 students.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Diplomas are granted upon completion of four different courses; namely: Academic, Commercial, Civic-Social, and Homemaking.

One hundred fourteen pupils were graduated on June 10, 1954 and their names are included in this report for information of interested citizens.

CLASS OF 1954

Vasil William Allabashi	†Eleanor Ann Labelle
*Joan Marie Anderson	†Constance Anne Lango
*Polly Joyce Anderson	*Jacqueline Margaret Lataille
*Sally Grace Anderson	Reynald Wilfred Lavallee
Lionel Lawrence Arpin	Carol Ann LeBlanc
Richard Leo Baker	Donald Eugene LeBlanc
*Cecile Marie Bibeau	Shirley Emma Lemoine
†Roberta Ann Blackburn	David Edward Letourneau
*Vivian Audrey Blood	*Janice Alice Livernoche
Richard Michael Boland	*Helen Ann Ludwin
*Beverly Joan Bouchard	Peter Goodwin Lusk
Lora Ann Boyer	Raymond Theodore Lussier
*Robert John Bozzo	Shirley Adah Mahan
Claire Romaine Brennan	Ronald John Marinelli
Patricia Jane Broadbent	James Joseph Marino, Jr.
†Judith Ann Brockway	Daniel Francis Martel
Bruce Everett Brown	†Wilma Elizabeth McDonald
Ernestine Phyllis Bruso	†Myrna Alice McKinstry
*Ann Marie Caouette	Catherine Rebecca McMahon
Richard Francis Castrucci	†James Michael
Gloria Ann Cesolini	Barbara Joan Miller
Robert George Clark	*Joan Elizabeth Montigny
Antonio George Cleri	*Eva Waclawa Morawska
*Laurette Therese Cloutier	*Holly Bryant Nickerson
*John Louis Coderre	Donald Earl Olson
Judith Madeline Colognesi	Robert Joseph O'Neill
†John Robert Confalone	*Frank Fred Ottak
*Richard Nelson Costa	Myrna Louise Peet
Pauline Cote	*Hugh Henry Coyle-Earls
Helen Cotton	*Constance Jean Fafard
Pauline Jeanne Cournoyer	Harvey Victor Gaumond
Charles Ligor Dionis	*Ruth Marion Gauthier
John Alfred Donovan	William Walter Gibb, Jr.
*Robert Paul Duff	Donald Daniel Girard
*Norbert Dupre	Calvin Ashmead Gould
*Jean Bernice Durand	*Diane Lorraine Gravel
Albert Eugene Hamel	*Patricia Anne Hall
Constance Leona Hamel	John James Sheehan
John Lawrence Hanson	Shirley Skarani
Sylvia Alberta Hatton	Paula Elizabeth Skudlark
Jeanne Lea Houle	Caroline Sarah Smith
Jeanne Theresa Jarry	*Gerald Leonard Smith
Paul Spiro Kollios	Clifford R. Steadman, Jr.
Robert Edward Kroll	Jeannette Katherine Swirbliss

*John Edward Swirbliss	John Dennis Santelli
Shirley Ann Talbot	Thomas Daniel Vangel
†Thomas Carlton Towse	Fred Elias Veber, Jr.
Barbara Myrtie Underwood	Joyce Abbie Waraika
Constance Joan Peloquin	Ronald Lloyd Willett
†Claire Constance Peloquin	†Katharine Anne Williams
*Russell Lee Peloquin	*Richard Edward Williams
Esther Mary Presutti	*Herbert Empsel Willman, Jr.
†Judith Carol Proulx	Roy Calvin Wilson
†Sharpe Ridout	Lorraine Juliet Zachara
†Charles Joseph Ryan, Jr.	*Leonard Zack
†Reginaldo Cataldo J. Salviuolo	*Sandra Ellen Zitka
	*Carol Ann Zuiss

Special Student

William David McKinstry

* General Average of 80% or above for four years.

† Members of the National Honor Society.

HOME MAKING

Home Making is a required subject for all girls enrolled in the High School. Each girl takes two double periods and one single period of this course each week.

The program is not merely a cooking and sewing course, but a training in Home Making designed to teach the fundamentals which contribute to a happy home life and to the many jobs with which a home maker should be familiar.

JUNIOR RED CROSS

The Junior Red Cross is a service organization. This group, under the able direction of Miss Luise Corbin, gives cheer and aid to the destitute, the ill, and the unfortunate.

There have been many worthwhile projects. Recently, the members of the Junior Red Cross made Babies' Bibs for the Saint Agnes Guild of the Catholic Home for Little Children in Worcester. The girls have brightened the homes of many shut-ins, both in hospitals and in homes, by distributing attractive holiday favors and trinkets.

The work of the group with the veterans supplements the tremendous task carried on by local, state, and national patriotic groups.

However, the work of the Junior Red Cross is not confined to local problems. Cognizant of the needs of many of our oversea allies, they have filled chests full of supplies that

will take care of a school of forty-eight pupils for a period of one year. Each chest costs one hundred dollars to fill. The Mary E. Wells Chapter of the Junior Red Cross has sent chests in the past to Korea and Holland. The chests this year are expected to go to Greece and Korea.

THE COMMERCIAL COURSE

The commercial program includes: Typewriting, bookkeeping, comptometry, filing, office practice and all general business courses. The Cooperative program with industry is still in operation. The course takes place in the last semester of the senior year and permits pupils to alternate work weeks with instruction weeks. The girls, four units of them, take places in reliable business institutions and have found this program most beneficial.

The equipment of the Commercial Department is kept at maximum efficiency. This year four electric typewriters were added to the department.

THE COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE

The college preparatory course prepares students for all leading universities and colleges in the country. Many of the pupils, receive large scholarships, a tribute to their own industry, and a tribute to the excellent instruction of their teachers. Students from this course have entered such leading institutions as: Cornell, Connecticut College for Women, Brown University, The College of the Holy Cross, Tufts, Dartmouth, University of Massachusetts, Boston University, University of Michigan, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Clark University, Rennsselaer Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, Smith College, Mount Holyoke, Wellesley College, Simmons College, Columbia University, University of Connecticut, University of New Hampshire, Williams College, Colorado College, Ohio State University, The College of New Rochelle, California Institute of Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State College, Northeastern University, plus most of the leading business colleges and nursing schools.

THE EIGHTH GRADES

The eighth grades of the school system are still housed in the high school building. The pupils receive the program opportunities of the high school and are eligible for all high school activities, including sports.

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The Student Council of the Mary E. Wells High School plays an important part between students and administration. This organization is under the direction of Miss Constance Coderre. The values of the organization are manifold.

1. Pupils participate in or manage extra-curricular affairs.
2. Responsibility, initiative and leadership are developed.
3. Proper student-faculty relations are promoted.
4. Training in worthy citizenship is furnished.
5. The general welfare of the school is promoted.
6. The internal administration of the school is aided.

The Fred E. Corbin Chapter of the National Honor Society

The local chapter of the National Honor Society, named in honor of the late Mr. Fred E. Corbin, inducted twenty members during the past year. The most recent induction was honored by the new Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Robert Fox, who spoke at the ceremonies.

The following young people have been inducted into the society during the past year:

March 1954:

Seniors

Constance C. Peloquin
Myrna McKinstry

Roberta Blackburn
Judith Proulx

Juniors

Priscilla McIntyre

Wilfred Houde
Donald Croke

October 1954:

Seniors

Carol Benson
Shirley Holmes
Carroll Hughes

Hazel O'Claire
Margaret Polakowski
Jeanne Xanthakos

Juniors

William Clifford
Judith Davey
Joanne Houle

Nancy Hughes
Paul Meunier
Jacquelin Poirier
Paula Rubenstein

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held every other week. These assemblies are of immense value to any student body inasmuch as they are not only educational but explore the various phases of

school life. Furthermore, they widen and deepen the interests of the pupils and serve as a means of developing public opinion and appreciation. The types of assemblies fall into many categories:

1. Education
2. Music
3. Rallies
4. Drama
5. Club Programs
6. Movies
7. Entertainment
8. Honor Society Installation
9. Science
10. Commerce and Business
11. Observance of Special Days
12. Guidance

The assemblies are held in the auditorium of the high school. Recently, three hundred new seats were purchased for the auditorium.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are several recommendations that I would like to make at this time:

1. That the Town look to the future and purchase land for the erection of a six-year high school. Suitable sites for such a school are being sold and developed for other purposes.

2. That the lavatory facilities be remodeled and modern equipment be installed.

3. That a complete renovation of the Science Laboratory be made. New equipment is needed to keep abreast with the rapid progress of science.

4. That a library be started and a teacher-librarian be appointed.

5. That lockers be installed to take care of pupils' personal belongings, coats, rubbers, etc.

6. That the Industrial Arts program be expanded in order that those pupils who are not interested in a Trade Education may have the benefit from allied courses.

I wish to express my appreciation to the townspeople for their continued efforts in behalf of the Mary E. Wells High School, and I extend my thanks to the School Department for support.

COLE TRADE HIGH SCHOOL

RAYMOND L. W. BENOIT, *Director*

For whom is Vocational Education? It is for all who must acquire Vocational Education to provide a livelihood for themselves and their families. Authorities on Vocational Edu-

cation feel that this form of education should serve: first, young people in school; second, those out of school; and third, adults in the locality. We, at the Cole Trade High School, attempt to follow these principles.

We could serve more people if more room would be provided. At the opening of school this September, we had a waiting list for all trades in spite of the fact that shops and classrooms had enrolled pupils beyond the maximum suggested by the State. In the adult programs the same condition exists. For example, at the time of writing we have twenty-seven adults awaiting admittance into the Furniture Refinishing classes.

Once again I ask the public to vote an expansion to our school which will enable us to satisfy the needs of the community.

GRADUATES

Cabinet

Berry, George Edward	Day, James Mason
*Buccelli, Albert	Jackson, Vernon Lee
Colwell, Eugene Allen	Richard, Emile Lucien
	Smith, William Lee

Drafting

Leduc, Richard Norman	Metras, Arthur Raoul
†Sroka, Edward John	

Electric

Collette, Alan Alfred	Norowski, Roger Leon
Proulx, Charles Arthur	

Machine

Dusza, Robert James

Metalsmith

Larochelle, Rene Ulric	*St. Germain, Donald William
Paradis, Joseph Aime	Savaria, Arthur Richard

Printing

Swiatek, John Walter, Jr.

* Jan. Grad.

† Veteran

Awards

American Legion Post No. 31 Award (Good Citizenship)

	Vernon Jackson
Director's Gold "C"	Arthur Metras
English Award	Roger Norowski
History Award	Emile Richard
Mathematics Award	John Swiatek
Science Award	Emile Richard

Class Officers

President	Vernon Jackson
Vice President	Alan Collette
Secretary	Robert Dusza
Treasurer	Arthur Metras

Evening School

Cabinet—Mr. Frank P. Skinyon	26
Drafting—Mr. John Benson	23
Mr. George Braman	15
Furniture Refinishing—Mr. Harold Andrews	12
Mr. Stanley Naumnik	14
Mr. Antonio Orsini	24
Machine—Mr. William Paul	14
Mr. Edwin Waskiewicz	12
Soldering-Welding—Mr. George Braman	18
Apprentice Diversified—Mr. William Julien	7
Total	165

In conclusion I thank the townspeople, the School Committee, the Advisory Board, The Superintendent of Schools, The Faculty, the Office Staff, and our Custodian for their valuable aid in helping to make Vocational Education a success in the Town of Southbridge.

HEALTH REPORT

MRS. LOTTIE A. LEBLANC, R.N., *School Nurse*

Some of the more essential work being done in this department can be better understood from the following statistics:

Physical Examinations	748
Visits to Schools	252
Vision Tests	1514
Hearing Tests	1055
Home Visits	207
Conferences on health problems	700
Dental Care	236
Innoculations	216
Pre-School Clinic Registration	350
Donations for milk by Lions' Club	\$800.00

Census of physically handicapped completed.

Summer camp provided for 7 children.

Special class for mentally retarded given much attention.

Five home teachers provided for children unable to go to

school; Clear Type Books were obtained from the Massachusetts Division of the Blind for two pupils.

In conclusion, I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the 1954 Health Program.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

JACOB E. GOUIN, *Attendance Officer*

Absentees from January 1, 1954 to December 31, 1954.

Month	Pupils	Days
January	7	28
February	3	12
March	10	20½
May	6	7½ (1 Suspended)
June	2	4
September	3	13
October	8	10 (1 Dropped & Transferred to Springfield.)
November	17	73
December	6	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	62	191

BAND REPORT

MR. PAUL J. SWEET, *Director*

In submitting this, my annual report for the year 1954, I would like to deviate from my usual custom of reporting on the activities of the musical groups under my direction and instead make some specific recommendations which would substantially improve the department.

For the elementary schools there should be music stands available in each school, as I now have to transport these from the high school. A minimum of one half dozen per school would be sufficient for the present.

The high school, of course, is the biggest problem. The room now used as the band room is about one half the size it should be for the number of students using it. It could be increased to double its size by extending out into what is now an unused court yard.

If, with the expansion of the Cole Trade School, any of the rooms in the Wells building should become available, I would like to have the room adjoining the band room. This room would be used for the instrumental and vocal supervisors' offices and for the storage of all equipment for which suitable cabinets, shelves, etc. would have to be built.

There should be two steps of risers built in the band room, these to be in sections so that they could be moved to the school auditorium, or the stage of the town hall as the occasion may require. Proper lighting should be made available in the Wells Auditorium under the balcony to the right of the stage that would shed light on the players' music in the rear of the band.

A part-time string instrument teacher in the elementary grades would lead to the formation of an orchestra with subsequent carry-over to the high school.

The foregoing recommendations and requests are based on a survey I have made of many high schools in which special attention has been given to the provision of suitable quarters and equipment for the music department.

The Wells High School Band, numbering about fifty students, took part in many town activities as follows:

An exchange concert with the Norwood, Massachusetts high school band was perhaps the outstanding activity of the school year. It gave the students of both groups an opportunity of becoming more closely acquainted with each other both musically and socially. The Wells High School Glee Club co-operated in the undertaking.

Other public performances by the band were as follows:

Rotary Club, Halloween Parade, Memorial Day parade, Elks Flag Day exercises, several school assemblies including a football rally, all home football games, also two away games, (Athol and Bartlett.) The outdoor high school graduation held at Dresser Field was a wonderful experience. The annual Music Festival, conducted under the auspices of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, Central Division, was held in Webster, May 22, 1954. The band, in its morning audition, received a rating of Excellent.

The elementary schools are being taken care of by weekly lessons in small group lessons. Music students from the four schools are brought together one night a week at the high school for full band experience. A parents' group was organized and they raised funds for the purchase of material and the making of uniforms. This group is known as the Southbridge Junior Band and went to the Music Festival. They also took part in the Memorial Day parade here in town.

Herewith is the net worth of the high school band, as of June 1, 1954.

Instruments owned by the band	\$2,159.00
Uniforms owned by the band	2,000.00
Music owned by the band	634.00
Other Equipment owned by the band	110.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$4,893.15

Of this amount \$2,000 was given to the band by the Southbridge Rotary Club. Amount purchased by the town over an 8-year period, \$400. The Balance of \$2,493.00 was earned by the band.

REPORT ON CHORAL MUSIC

ELLWOOD S. JENNESS, *Director*

The vocal music program in the Southbridge Public Schools continues to be characterized by a high and increasing degree of interest and enthusiasm. Many gains are in evidence, as are many needs for the adoption of measures to keep step with these gains and to nurture the growing interest.

The past year has seen a growth in the choral departments of the high school and eighth grade from about one-eighth to nearly one-third of the total school population. It has consequently been necessary to devote an increased amount of time and energy to these groups. At the same time an effort has been made to maintain the status quo in the elementary schools. The desirability of an additional teacher on the music staff, who could devote full time to the elementary program, is clearly seen for the following reasons:

1. There has been a considerable increase in the number of elementary school class rooms.
2. An elementary school music supervisor should be free to confer with the classroom teachers after school or before the afternoon session. Much of the success of the elementary school music program depends on the classroom teachers, and the supervisor should be more readily available to help them than is now possible.
3. New activities, such as rhythm band work, glee clubs, song flutes, and an improved listening program, should be initiated and developed.
4. Relieving the director of some of the elementary teaching would enable him to inaugurate classes in the high school in theory, voice instruction, history and appreciation; and to further develop the high school, trade high school, and eighth grade choral programs. Such activities are considered a necessary and integral part of the modern, forward-looking school's curriculum.

It is to be hoped that the people of Southbridge will appreciate the spiritual and social significance to their young people of an awakened interest in music, and will realize the importance of seizing every opportunity to further that interest.

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT

SVEN O. ROSENGREN, *Director of Guidance*

In conformity with the custom of other years, a report on guidance activities during the past year is hereby respectfully submitted.

TESTING PROGRAM

Intelligence Tests

Consistent with a pattern of testing established several years ago in the Southbridge Public Schools, tests measuring scholastic aptitude were administered in October, to pupils in grades 1, 4, 7, 9, 11 and 12. The tests used were the California Tests of Mental Maturity and the Psychological Examination of the American Council of Education. The latter test was administered to the Senior Class at Mary E. Wells High School. In some instances individual psychological examinations were administered to pupils throughout the school system.

Achievement Tests

Metropolitan Achievement Tests were administered to grades 1-8. These standardized tests are administered annually to all pupils in each of these grades and can be used as diagnostic tools in teaching. The tests measure achievement in reading, vocabulary, arithmetic, English, history, geography, science and spelling. Scores achieved by each pupil were related to tables of National norms. An extensive study was made of the complete test data and a report of findings was submitted to the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. The report indicated that the children in Southbridge Public Schools were generally achieving about .5 of one year above the National group.

The objective measurement of achievement in specific subjects such as English, French, Geometry, chemistry, Physics, etc., as taught in the high school, was accomplished through use of Cooperative Tests, published by the Education Test Service at Princeton, N. J.

Aptitude Tests

On February 15, 1954 a battery of tests measuring interest, scholastic aptitude, reading comprehension, mechanical aptitude and clerical aptitude was administered to pupils in the junior classes of the Mary E. Wells High School and the Cole Trade High School. This battery was administered by the Boston University Guidance and Testing Service. Subsequent to this testing, a psychometric report for each student was developed into a vocational aptitude battery profile and used as a counselling aid in the schools.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Em-

ployment Security, administered a General Aptitude Test battery to thirty-seven seniors at the Mary E. Wells and Cole Trade High Schools in November. The results of these tests are useful in the counselling of students and also provide the Division of Employment Security with objective placement data.

Placement

A survey was conducted to determine the part time employment status of high school pupils. A break down of the findings of this survey is listed below.

Class	No.
1955 Employed	49
Unemployed	36
1956 Employed	36
Unemployed	46
1957 Employed	25
Unemployed	95

Fifty-eight percent of seniors enrolled at the Mary E. Wells High School are employed in part-time work as compared to 44% in the junior class and 20% in the sophomore class. Because of age requirements and labor laws, those students employed part time in the Sophomore and Freshmen Classes are primarily engaged in such work activities as delivery boy, paper route, house work, baby sitting, etc.

A placement file has been established in the guidance office where students may register for part-time work. As notice of vacancies are received, qualifying students are contacted and referred for possible employment.

A cooperative work plan for Senior Commercial students has been in effect for several years. In this plan, qualified students spend alternate two-week periods in an actual work situation outside of school and two weeks in the formal class room environment.

Class of 1954

Over forty percent of the members of the class of 1954 continued in further education at other institutions. The following table presents a breakdown of the entire class.

	No.	%
1. Further Education	47	41.2
Attending four year colleges	30	26.3
Attending nursing schools	8	7.0
Attending Junior Colleges	6	5.2
Attending Technical Schools	3	2.6
2. Employed in full-time work	31	27.2
3. Entered military services	18	15.8
4. Employed part-time work	7	6.2
5. Unemployed	6	5.3
6. Married (girls)	5	4.4

Occupational and Educational Information

A library of Occupational Information including books, digests, and occupational briefs has been set up in the Mary E. Wells High School. College catalogues and information bulletins are arranged on open shelves for student use. A large and current selection of these catalogues is maintained so that information on nearly all schools and colleges in the country is readily available.

In addition to the above facility, the department has provided for a series of informational talks, movies and field trips.

Counselling

The nature of counselling is dependent upon the individual variations in personalities and the types of problems being considered. Many interviews were simple in nature and were concerned with employment registration, securing of information and disclosure of personal data. Scores achieved in the many and varied standardized tests elsewhere described in this report were entered in a cumulative record folder. Pupil progress, referral data, special recommendations, etc. are also kept in these cumulative files.

A combination vocational aptitude profile chart and questionnaire is being developed for the eighth grade at the present moment. Its purpose is to provide an effective counselling device for advising pupils in their selection of courses as they enter the first year of high school.

Program of Study

Programs of study for the Cole Trade High School and the Mary E. Wells High School were produced in sufficient numbers so that each pupil selecting courses was given a copy for his personal use and for planning at home with parents.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that a Dean of Girls be appointed in the Mary E. Wells High School to assist in the counselling program.
2. It is recommended that a reading improvement program be initiated in the Mary E. Wells High School to meet the needs of pupils who are slow readers.

The administration of a functioning guidance program would be an impossibility without the close cooperation of all school personnel. I would like at this time to express my appreciation to all principals, supervisors, and teachers for their cooperative assistance expended in behalf of this program.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

DR. LEWIS A. KYRIOS, *Director*

The general functions of our Physical Education program is to assist in providing a medium for the normal growth and natural development of each pupil. The basic aims and objectives are the same as those of education in general, for the total process of education must be considered in providing a program of education for the proper development of the child.

One of the primary functions of physical education is to develop each individual to his greatest possible physical capacity within the range of accepted educational objectives. This implies development in skill and ability as well as organic development.

Our present Physical Education Program involves over five hundred pupils, participating in regular physical education classes. All the boys and girls in grades six and seven in our elementary school have two periods of physical education each week. All the boys of our Cole Trade High School average one hour per week.

A typical Physical Education Program comprises the following: Calisthenics, Formal Activities, Games, Relays and Recreational Sports.

The curriculum is flexible in order to provide a wide range of activities for the many interests.

A closely supervised program has been organized for grades 1-5 inclusive. This program has been designed to provide students opportunities to learn basic skills, to develop good health and safety habits, to encourage leadership and good sportsmanship.

The activities are planned and organized by the Director and submitted to each classroom teacher, who in turn conducts these activities during the recess period. Approximately 30 minutes a day is given to this program.

Play Demonstration Days were held in all elementary schools during the month of June, and many parents attended.

AFTER-SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

This program has become very popular for more have participated in the past year. Touch football, basketball, and baseball Leagues have been organized for the boys in the elementary schools. The girls play basketball and softball. The competition between girls has been more keen and balanced. All the students participating in these activities are properly supervised by their coaches and all teams are properly clothed.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Principals, the School Health Service, and the classroom teachers for their generous collaboration and cooperation in establishing the Physical Education Program.

REPORT OF ADULT CIVIC EDUCATION

MISS CONSTANCE L'ECUYER, *Director*

To the Superintendent of Schools:

Many changes have been made in the regulations carrying out the Immigration and Naturalization Laws. The McCarran Act, or new Immigration Act dispenses with all Declaration of Intention or First Papers. Now everyone must file only one paper after residing in the United States for five years, except wives or husbands of citizens. These may file after a three-year residence in this country. Everyone must submit to fingerprinting before being called for questioning. The Southbridge Police Department has been most cooperative in Finger-Printing all cases referred to them. This eliminates the necessity of the petitioner going to Worcester.

Today, legally admitted children under sixteen acquire Citizenship through the Naturalization of a parent. This is most important and this Division of the School Department is constantly on the alert to make this known to parents to get them to act immediately, before their children reach their sixteenth birthday.

A person over fifty years of age and who has lived at least twenty years in the United States is not required to read and write English fluently, but must possess a knowledge and understanding of American History and Government. This is often not understood by people applying for Citizenship.

The different National Societies of Southbridge have been most cooperative in instructing and helping their members to make application for Citizenship. This proves the societies to be truly American.

The primary aim in our Evening Adult Civic Education Classes is to give these people, newly arrived to our shores, an immediate English speaking and reading vocabulary. This, so far, has proven most successful.

Those who attended the United States History and Government Class, preparatory to applying for Citizenship, have always succeeded when meeting the Federal Examiners. Thus, we know the Community is fulfilling its obligation to the new-comer by providing help when it is most needed. The Civic Education Division is constantly corresponding near and far for pertinent data needed in applications and wishes to thank other Town of Southbridge Departments for their patient help in giving needed information or acting in the capacity of Notary Public for documents. All during the year, filing of papers, filling out of applications, transferral of pensions from foreign countries to new immigrants are arranged; provision for the immigration of parents and the posting of bonds is made; help is given in filling out Displaced Persons Reports as well as the yearly Alien Reports.

Private and Special Help for people who follow a Home

Study Course, because of inability to attend class regularly, is also undertaken. The Adult Civic Education Division of the School Department endeavors in every way to fulfill its function of giving aid to recent immigrants as well as long-standing Alien Residents. It is ever willing to help whenever called upon.

PLAYGROUND REPORT

DR. LEWIS A. KYRIOS, *Director*

The playground season began on July 12th and ended August 20th, a period of six weeks. The activities were conducted at the following areas: Charlton Street, Eastford Road, West Street, Pleasant Street and the Town Hall.

Personnel

Director — Lewis A. Kyrios

Supervision of Arts and Crafts — Mrs. Kathryn Beauregard
West Street School

Supervisor Miss Elizabeth Duhamel
Assistants Mr. Donald Marino, Miss Jane Darley,
Miss Margaret Polakowski

Pleasant Street School

Supervisor Miss Madelene Proulx
Assistants —.... Miss Helen Ludwin, Mr. George Barbierri

Eastford Road School

Supervisor Mr. Vincent Puracchio
Assistants Mrs. Lois Traub, Miss Mary Butler

Charlton Street School

Supervisor Mr. Roger Hebert
Assistants Mr. Joseph Marino, Miss Constance
Peloquin, Miss Antoinette Del Greco

Activities

Inter-playground competition in softball, volleyball, dodgeball and basketball was offered.

Ping Pong, zellball, horseshoes were presented as intra-playground activities.

Singing games, quiet games, swings, slides, jungle-gym and sandbox activities were listed for the "little people."

Arts and Craft

The arts and crafts exhibit was held in the Town Hall on August 19th, from 2:00 to 4:00 and from 7:00 to 9:00 P. M. Over 3500 items were displayed. Parents and friends of the children were invited and over 800 people attended this exhibition. Mrs. Kathryn Beauregard, Supervisor of Arts and Crafts, was in charge of this exhibit and did an excellent job.

Safety Program

The Safety Program was very successful as the results were excellent. There were no major accidents.

The playground program was divided in the following manner:

First Week	Organization Week
Second Week	Sports Program
Third Week	Intra-Playground Competition
Fourth Week	Amateur Shows
Fifth Week	Sports Playoffs
Sixth Week	Arts & Crafts Exhibit

Enrollment and Attendance

Total Enrollment	1385
Average Daily Attendance	660
Average Percentage of Attendance	45%
Largest Daily Attendance	765

I wish to extend my appreciation to all those who helped to make the Playground season a success.

Sincerely yours,

DR. LEWIS A. KYRIOS,
Director of Playgrounds

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION AND EVENING VOCATIONAL COURSES

Classes in evening vocational subjects were offered again this year and proved to be very well attended. The following vocational classes were started in September:

Elementary Sewing	Two classes
Advanced Dressmaking	One class
Tailoring	Two classes

University extension classes were offered in the commercial and academic fields.

Elementary Typewriting	One class
Speaking in Public	One class

These classes were conducted under the supervision of the State Department of Education and were instructed by accredited teachers.

Other classes in the vocational, commercial, and academic fields will be offered when the demand for them is sufficient to form such classes.

CAFETERIA REPORT

Audio-Visual Uses

MISS RUTH CUMMINGS, *Director*

There has not been any great increase in the use of the cafeteria this year. The count might be called better, considering the loss of students to Tantasqua, as the number of luncheons served is holding about the same as a year ago. This is due to the fact that the largest number of lunches served is to the 8th, 9th and 10th grades. This should mean that as new and larger classes come in the number of luncheons served will be greater. The Marcy Street count is larger than a year ago.

The need for new equipment is still great. The present setup is far from adequate. There is need for refrigeration, ranges, and bakers. Also, proper counter setup for quick serving, not to mention slicers, mixers, etc. The Cafeteria seating capacity is not sufficient for the demands placed upon it, and we do not have a proper Teachers' Dining Room.

The new Elementary Milk Program in the elementary schools is proving successful. We are serving all but about 400 of the elementary children. The Lion's Club takes care of those who cannot afford to pay. From all reports we are among the highest in Worcester County if not in the state. The Lion's Club are also paying for lunches for two undernourished children from Marcy Street School. The Young Women's Club of the Baptist Church are paying for one needy child in Mrs. Steenburn's room. Southbridge Evening Women's Club also paid for lunches for the needy children. These are very commendable causes because good nutrition may help these children do better work.

AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS REPORT

MR. EDWARD DESROCHES, *Director*

It is the thinking of many audio-visual education specialists that a quantitative increase in the use of audio-visual materials is usually accompanied by a qualitative increase. Our observation of audio-visual aids uses by teachers during 1954 seems to bear this out. Teachers used more audio-visual aids in 1954 and used them better than in any previous year. A total of 228 educational films, 1668 film strips, 625 lantern slides and 65 tape recording programs were requested by teachers during the year.

New Equipment

The use of film strips in the elementary schools was

greatly facilitated by the purchase of a new Spencer 500-watt film strip projector for every school. A new DeVry sound motion picture projector, and a Spencer opaque projector were also added to the Department. These additional teaching tools should do much toward the realization of the full educational potentialities of audio-visual materials.

Audio-Visual Education Course

Early in 1954, the Audio-Visual Aids Department achieved one of its main objectives. It was finally able to give the teachers of Southbridge the opportunity to enroll in a course in audio-visual education without out-of-town traveling. This course called "Integration of Audio-Visual Materials in the Curriculum" was offered through the Massachusetts Department of Education and carried both opportunity and gave a certificate upon completion of the course. Such formal instruction, coupled with the informal instruction offered by the Department, should ensure better utilization of audio-visual materials in our schools.

Student Projectionists

In order to relieve teachers of projection details and give them more time for teaching, more student projectionists were trained and added to the Student Projectionist Squad. These students have always measured up to their responsibilities and have received the approval of every teacher they have served.

Research

The director is currently conducting research on the problem of "BUILDING THE TYPE OF AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS PROGRAM WHICH SHOULD BE IN OPERATION IN THE SOUTHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS." This work, done in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master's degree at Boston University, necessitates extensive investigation of all phases of an ideal program and should, therefore, be of real value in coping with many of our audio-visual aids problems in the future.

Community Service

During the past year, the Department continued its policy of assisting community organizations whenever possible. Equipment and operators were provided for the following organizations during 1954: Southbridge Women's Club, Rotary Club, Semi-Circle Club, American Legion Post, Southbridge Layman's Chiropractic Association, and the Jacob Edwards Public Library.

ART REPORT

MISS CLAIRE J. BIRTZ, *Director*

The Integrated art program in our elementary schools has been in operation for three years. The results of this planned art program can readily be seen in the work of the individual child as he progresses from the primary grades to the intermediate grades and then on to upper grades. The program has been planned to contribute to the full development of each child from the primary grades where he realizes the satisfaction of experimenting with paint and brush, crayon, cut and torn paper to the realistic stage where he gets a feeling for design and ties his experiences to his work.

In the intermediate grades, work in design, crafts and art appreciation give opportunities for creative expression to the average child as well as to the exceptionally talented. More difficult problems are offered in the upper grades; these include instruction in block printing, stenciling art of lettering, both with brush and lettering pen, advanced color harmony, design, and participation in poster contests.

Mary E. Wells High School offers an elective art course which is of great value to students who wish to further their studies in art. Students are given a thorough training in color theory, design, sketching, painting both in water color tempera and oils for advanced students. It also includes lay-out, black and white drawings for the school paper, three-dimensional work, mobiles, posters, block printing, stenciling on cloth modeling, painting scenery for school programs and planning decorations for school dances. It provides stimulating and practical problems for the average and the talented students.

SCHOOL PERSONNEL

The name, date of appointment, and degrees appear in that order.

Robert L. Fox — 1954	B.S.; M.Ed.
Sven O. Rosengren — 1950	B.S.; M.Ed.
Lewis A. Kyrios — 1938	C.A.G.S.; M.A.; D.Ed.
Ellwood Jenness — 1948	B.S.
Paul J. Sweet — 1950	
Claire Birtz — 1937	
Margaret R. Connolly — 1922	
Mary F. Welch — 1954	

Mary E. Wells High School

James M. Robertson — 1937	B.S.; M.Ed; D.Ed.
Lindzay Varnam — 1943	B.S.; M.Ed.
Nora B. Adams — 1947	
Pauline M. Aucoin — 1921	B.S.Ed.

Kathryn Beauregard — 1922	A.B.; M.A.
Rose Brodeur — 1939	B.S.; M.A.
Eva Casavant — 1933	B.S.; M.A.
Laura Chapman — 1953	A.B.
Constance Coderre — 1929	B.S.
Luise B. Corbin — 1923	
Edward Desroches — 1949	A.B.
Paul A. Duhart — 1949	B.S.Ed.
Thecla Fitzgerald — 1926	A.B.; M.Ed.
Robert F. Hart — 1952	A.B.; M.A.
C. Estelle Hefner — 1933	Ph.B.
Everett H. Holmes — 1945	A.B.; M.Ed.
Persis F. Howe — 1930	B.S.Ed.
Barbara H. Kyrios — 1940	B.S.Ed.
Eino Laakso — 1945	A.B.; M.A.
Claude Lacouture — 1948	B.S.
Arthur D. Lane — 1948	M.Ed.; M.A.
Harry J. McMahon — 1926	Ph.B.; M.Ed.
Elinor Small — 1945	A.B.; M.Ed.
Flora Tait — 1939	B.S.Ed.; M.A.
Frances Troy — 1927	B.S.Ed.
Elsie Wanerka — 1945	B.S.Ed.
John E. Welch — 1948	B.S.; M.Ed.

Cole Trade High School

Raymond L. W. Benoit — 1949	B.S.; M.Ed.
Maureen A. Baybutt — 1946	
Elsie A. Hofstra — 1933	
John L. Benson — 1942	B.S.Ed.
George H. Braman — 1938	
Francis E. Couture — 1945	Leave of Absence
Walter J. Glondek — 1938	
Ernest Hall — 1926	
William C. Nickerson — 1941	
William B. Paul — 1942	
Rosaire Pariseau — 1953	Substitute
Eugene J. Remian — 1949	B.S.Ed.
Frank P. Skinyon — 1934	B.S.Ed.
Lawrence F. Swenson — 1932	
Edwin J. Waskiewicz — 1952	
Stanley Naumnik — 1954	B.S.Ed.

Charlton Street School

R. Joseph Racine — 1944	A.B.; M.Ed.
Dorothy Berthiaume — 1954	A.B.
Lorene Fierro — 1953	B.S.
Elizabeth Duhamel — 1953	B.S.
Lorraine Gagne — 1954	B.S.
Helen Golden — 1948	
Claire A. Kirk — 1949	

Gwen Kuszewski — 1954	
Dorothy Locke — 1943	
Ruth Mahan — 1948	B.S.
Anthony B. Sapienza — 1954	B.S.
Marie J. Saunders — 1924	

Eastford Road School

Raoul O. Lataille — 1939	A.B.; M.Ed.
T. Thomas Finnerty — 1948	A.B.; M.A.
Bertha E. Foley — 1912	
Irene V. Gough — 1914	
Dagmar Irwin — 1954	
Cathryn Maxwell — 1945	
Julia C. Morrill — 1914	
Malcolm Nash — 1948	M.Ed.
Mary B. Puracchio — 1951	B.S.
Vincent J. Puracchio — 1950	A.B.; M.A.
Dorothy Simpson — 1954	B.A.
Florida Tarquinio — 1942	B.S.Ed.

Marcy Street School

Constance M. L'Ecuyer — 1940	B.S.Ed.; M.A.
*Joseph Angelini — 1952	A.B.
Patricia P. Callahan — 1939	B.S.Ed.; M.Ed.
Elizabeth Curtis — 1944	A.B.; B.S.Ed.
Alice Wixted Dion — 1926	
Josette Dupuis — 1948	A.B.
Martha Koprowski — 1954	B.S.
Ruth Huson — 1945	
Myrtle B. Jodrey — 1944	
Thomas F. Mahoney — 1954	B.S.
* Military Leave of Absence	

Mechanic Street School

Anita Sfreddo — 1953	Mus.B.
Clara M. Reed — 1918	
Marie E. Skaza — 1949	
Madelene Y. Proulx — 1954	B.S.

West Street School

Laurenda Boyer — 1926	
Yolande Augusto — 1951	B.S.Ed.
William L. Haith — 1954	B.A.
Nancy A. Jodrey — 1954	B.A.
Gilbert O. Lamarre — 1954	B.A.
Eva P. Salviuolo — 1943	B.S.Ed.
Dorothy M. Sheriff — 1945	
Anne Skudlark — 1954	
Celestine C. Sweet — 1932	
Evangeline R. Towse — 1948	B.S.Ed.; M.Ed.

Special Teachers

William E. Rinehart — 1952	
Louise E. Steenburn — 1949	

CHANGE OF TEACHERS

Left

January—Jane Rankine	West Street
February—Daniel J. Hobart	Mary E. Wells High
March—*Emery A. Lavallee	Cole Trade High
June—Helen Boucher	Mary E. Wells High
June—Harold A. Andrews	Cole Trade High
June—Leah Sax Cohen	Charlton Street
June—Priscilla Quirk	Charlton Street
June—Owen F. Ryder, Jr.	Charlton Street
June—Mary Brady	Marcy Street
June—Kathleen Burns	Marcy Street
June—Farncis Flanagan	Marcy Street
June—Gladys Scott	Mechanic Street
June—Marjorie F. Campbell	West Street
July—Robert H. McCarn	Supt. of Schools
October—Emily F. Roberts	West Street
December—Lorene Fierro	Charlton Street

*Retired

Appointments

October—Robert L. Fox	Supt. of Schools
September—Martha Koprowski	Marcy Street
September—Thomas F. Mahoney	Marcy Street
September—William L. Haith	West Street
September—Gilbert Lamarre	West Street
September—Anne Skudlark	West Street
October—Nancy Jodrey	West Street
September—Madelene Proulx	Mechanic Grade I
September—Dorothy Berthiaume	Charlton Street
September—Lorene S. Fierro	Charlton Street
September—Gwen M. Kuszewski	Charlton Street
September—Anthony Sapienza	Charlton Street
September—Lorraine Gagne	Charlton Street
October—Dorothy Locke	Charlton Street
September—Dagmar Irwin	Eastford Road
September—Dorothy Simpson	Eastford Road
September—Stanley Naumnik	Cole Trade High

CHANGE OF JANITORS

Appointments

†1954—Joseph Brouillard	Marcy Street
†Replacing Rodolphe L'Homme (deceased)	

JANITORS

1947—Frederick P. Alger	Mary E. Wells High
1954—Joseph Brouillard	Marcy Street
1946—John B. Craite	Cole Trade High
1942—Armand Gaumond	Mechanic Street
1952—Wilfred P. Gauthier	West Street
1952—Adelard Lavallee	Mary E. Wells High
1943—Theophile Leduc	Charlton Street
1941—Joseph Moore	Eastford Road
1949—Eugene Tetreault	Pleasant Street
1953—George St. Martin	Mary E. Wells High

Conclusion:

An annual report must, by its very nature, be a superficial effort to keep the citizens of a community informed about its schools. Even such a report, however, may bring questions to the minds of readers which can only be answered by investigation and enlightenment. We shall grasp any opportunity to place further information before you; we shall work continually for the betterment of the schools of Southbridge; we shall accept any constructive, or even well-meant criticism with the firm conviction that the growth of the system is dependent, ultimately, upon the will of the people.

This report could not be considered complete without a final note of appreciation to a School Committee which holds the welfare of the children as its criterion in the solution of its problems; to a fine, hardworking staff and to all who in word or deed have been helpful in the physical, spiritual, and intellectual development of the children of our town.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. FOX,
Superintendent of Schools

